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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Dessau Airfield

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 22 January to 19 February 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 13 March 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE 25X1

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3. No MiG-15s have recently been observed at or flying over the field. Source repeatedly observed that Soviet Air Force officers used the trains between Koethen and Dessau-Alten. It was not clear where these officers were stationed.*

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4. On 22 January and 2 February, 50 IL-10s and 5 biplanes were observed at the field. On 30 January, there was individual flying by three IL-10s which repeatedly took off and landed.

5. In early October 1951, three large and one small fuel tanks arrived by rail. On 13 January, a large hole was observed between the runway and taxiway, east of the flight control station. On 30 January, the hole was filled. It is possible that a gasoline tank was installed there. Since the reoccupation of the field, piles of boards about 4 meters long and empty wooden boxes were observed on the northern edge of the field, west of the debris of the last hangar. Since no changes or security measures were observed there, source believed that the boxes about 1.5 x 1.5 x 1.5 meter were empty.

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During various hours of the day and night for a long period the sound of air raid sirens was heard from the field. The last one heard was on the morning of 14 February.

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6. On 1 February from 7 p.m. to the following morning, night flying with running lights was practiced at the field. The weather was excellent. It appeared that 15 to 20 aircraft from all dispersal areas participated in the air activity. The take-offs and landings were made individually. Four or five aircraft were usually aloft at the same time. There was a lighted path on both sides of the runway. A red light flashed six times to indicate the presence of a plane on the runway while a green light flashed six times in order to indicate that the runway was free. On 15 February, there was no flying. About 50 single-engine planes and 5 biplanes were parked at the field.

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7. From 3 to 19 February, the field was occupied by about 50 II-10s and 5 Po-2s which were parked on the southern edge. Two piles of boxes covered with corrugated sheet metal were observed between the small low wooden buildings on the northern edge of the field. A radio installation with one mast was located on the southern edge. ** About 10 meters west of this radio installation there were four small semi-underground, low wooden buildings. A new low wooden building, about 10 x 20 meters, was located 30 meters to the west. Truck [] and ambulance [] entered and left the field. ***

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* [] Comment. The trips between Koethen and Dessau are possibly connected with the arrival of a new air force unit in Koethen. There are indications that the unit in Koethen is an experimental ground attack unit which is possibly equipped with MiG-15s. []

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** [] Comment. For location of radio installation, []

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*** [] Comment. The report confirms that Dessau airfield is occupied by a ground attack regiment. The two motor vehicle [] unit of this regiment. It is noteworthy that the regiment practiced little flying.

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